



Reading Skill: Predicting the likely development of the topic

Learn together!

Some questions test your ability to make a logical guess of the possible development of a certain context. There are three steps to answering such questions:

- 1** Underline the keywords in the question and options.
- 2** Read the whole text to understand the context. Then try to put yourself in the narrator's or the character's position and think about what he or she would speak and how he or she would act in the situation that the question provides.
- 3** Draw a logical conclusion of what may happen next. Note that in this type of question, you cannot get the answer directly from the text.

Give it a try!

e.g.1 How might the lawyer respond to the farmer in the end?

- A. 'Your new coat seems warmer than mine.'
- B. 'Not at all. I'm just doing the right thing.'
- C. 'Your body has an unpleasant smell.'
- D. 'I've just helped you. What will you give me in return?'

Although the lawyer did not know the farmer personally, he helped him because he could not bear to see the tailor bullying the poor farmer in public. It shows that the lawyer **had a strong sense of justice** and he thought helping the farmer was a right thing that he should do.

e.g.2 The tailor later told his wife about this incident. What might he say?

- A. 'The lawyer shouldn't get involved in things that don't concern him.'
- B. 'What a bad day! I lost an expensive coat today.'
- C. 'I don't want to see the poor farmer again.'
- D. 'I won't be so mean to people any more.'

The tailor apologised after the lawyer scolded him for being mean and not having sympathy for the poor farmer. It shows that he **had a sense of guilt** and it is very likely that he might want to make some changes by not being mean to others any more. Therefore, option D is the correct answer.